

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, **domestic violence** is a pattern of coercion and control in an interpersonal relationship where one individual uses violence or the threat of violence to gain power and control over the other individual;

Whereas, **domestic violence** violates an individual's sense of privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to the systematic use of verbal, physical, emotional, psychological, economic and sexual control and/or abuse;

Whereas, **children who witness domestic violence** too often grow up to inflict violence on others or become victims of violence, creating an intergenerational cycle of violence that must be stopped;

Whereas, **the tolerance of and indifference to** the signs and issues of domestic violence only serve to continue the prevalence of domestic violence and thwart efforts to end and prevent domestic violence;

Whereas, **the incidence of domestic violence** is not confined to any group or groups of people but cuts across all economic, racial and societal barriers; and

Whereas, **the impact of domestic violence** is wide-ranging, directly effecting individuals, families, friends, classrooms, businesses, neighborhoods, towns, and society as a whole, across this state and throughout the United States and the world;

Now, therefore, we, the Eastham Board of Selectmen, do hereby endorse the month of October as "**National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**", and we urge all residents to support the efforts to end and prevent domestic violence within our town and across the Cape and Islands.

David S. Burt

Matthew McFadden

Deborah Schaffer

Carol F. Martin

Chris J. Egan

Date: October 20, 2008